

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-15 - cancelled

16. (Currently Amended) A channel switching apparatus for a digital television to facilitate channel identification, the apparatus comprising:

 a central processor for receiving a plurality of icons from a plurality of broadcast stations, each of the icons ~~containing data about a diagram and character~~ representing and identifying one of the broadcast stations;

 a memory for storing the received icons; and

 an icon display unit for displaying an icon on a screen,

 wherein, in response to a user's selection of a particular channel, the central processor retrieves, from the memory, a set channel icon that contains data ~~about a diagram and character~~ that represents and identifies the selected channel, and controls the icon display unit to display the retrieved icon on the screen during a time gap in digital television channel switching to facilitate identification of the selected channel.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the retrieved icon is displayed as an OSD (On Screen Display) at a time between previous and next channel displays of the digital television channel switching.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein only the retrieved icon is displayed on the screen during the time gap in the digital television channel switching.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the plurality of icons are stored in the memory in a lookup table format.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein each of the icons includes a diagram or character representing the corresponding broadcast station.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:
a signal processor for receiving a digital broadcast signal carrying programs from the plurality of broadcast stations,
wherein the central processor retrieves and displays, on the screen, one of the programs that corresponds to the user's selection of the particular channel.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:
an auxiliary storage unit for storing data for operating a program of the memory.

23. (Currently Amended) A digital television to facilitate channel identification comprising:

a screen;

a signal processor for receiving a digital broadcast signal carrying programs from a plurality of broadcast stations,

a central processor for receiving a plurality of icons from the plurality of broadcast stations, each of the icons containing data ~~about a diagram and character~~ representing and facilitating identification of one of the broadcast stations;

a memory for storing the received icons; and

an icon display unit for displaying an icon on the screen,

wherein, in response to a user's selection of a particular channel, the central processor retrieves, from the memory, a set channel icon that contains data ~~about a diagram and a character~~ that represents and identifies the selected channel, and controls the icon display unit to display the retrieved icon on the screen during a time gap in digital television channel switching to facilitate identification of the selected channel, and

wherein the central processor retrieves and displays, on the screen, one of the programs that corresponds to the user's selection of the particular channel.

24. (Previously Presented) The digital television of claim 23, wherein the retrieved icon is displayed as an OSD (On Screen Display) at a time between previous and next channel displays of the digital television channel switching.

25. (Previously Presented) The digital television of claim 24, wherein only the retrieved icon is displayed on the screen during the time gap in the digital television channel switching.

26. (Previously Presented) The digital television of claim 24, wherein the plurality of icons are stored in the memory in a lookup table format.

27. (Previously Presented) The digital television of claim 24, wherein each of the icons includes a diagram or character representing the corresponding broadcast station.

28. (Previously Presented) The digital television of claim 24, further comprising: an auxiliary storage unit for storing data for operating a program of the memory.

29. (Currently amended) A channel switching method for a digital television to facilitate channel identification, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of icons from a plurality of broadcast stations, each of the icons containing data ~~about a diagram and character representing and~~ facilitating identification of one of the broadcast stations;

storing, in a memory associated with the digital television, the received icons;

detecting a user's selection of a particular channel;

retrieving, from the memory, a set icon containing data ~~about a diagram and character representing and~~ facilitating identification of the user-selected channel in response to the detection result; and

displaying the retrieved icon on a screen during a time gap in digital television channel switching to facilitate identification of the selected channel.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein in the displaying step, the retrieved icon is displayed as an OSD (On Screen Display) at a time between previous and next channel displays of the digital television channel switching.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein in the displaying step, only the retrieved icon is displayed on the screen during the time gap in the digital television channel switching.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein in the storing step, the plurality of icons are stored in the memory in a lookup table format.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein in the receiving step, each of the icons includes a diagram or character representing the corresponding broadcast station.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising:
receiving a digital broadcast signal carrying programs from the plurality of broadcast stations; and
retrieving and displaying, on the screen, one of the programs that corresponds to the user's selection of the particular channel.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising:
storing, in an auxiliary storage unit, data for operating a program of the memory.

36. (New) A channel switching method to facilitate channel identification for a user of a digital television having a channel selection key signal, a video signal processing unit, a central processing unit, a main memory unit, an auxiliary storage memory unit and an icon display unit to facilitate channel identification, the method comprising:

first, inputting from the auxiliary memory unit, data for operating a program of the main memory unit, when a channel is selected;

second, searching for the selected channel and receiving a broadcast signal corresponding to the searched channel from the signal processing unit;

third, selecting a pertinent channel icon for the selected channel by comparing an icon corresponding with the channel with an icon of the channel stored in the main memory unit;

fourth, displaying the pertinent channel icon;

fifth, determining whether another channel is selected;

sixth, determining whether processing of a video signal corresponding to a signal outputted from the video signal processor is finished, if another channel is not selected;

seventh, displaying the broadcast signal of the selected channel, if the video signal processing is finished;

eighth, displaying the pertinent channel icon of the searched channel, if the video signal processing is not finished;

ninth, repeatedly performing the previous steps, if another channel selection is not made;

tenth, searching a newly selected channel if a new channel selection is made before the video signal processing is finished; and

eleventh, repeating the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth steps with respect to the newly selected channel to facilitate identification of a selected channel.

37. (New) A channel switching apparatus to facilitate channel identification for a user of a digital television having a channel selection key signal, a video signal processing unit, a central processing unit, a main memory unit, an auxiliary storage memory unit and an icon display unit to facilitate channel identification, the apparatus comprising:

means for inputting from the auxiliary memory unit, data for operating a program of the main memory unit, when a channel is selected;

means for searching for the selected channel and receiving a broadcast signal corresponding to the searched channel from the signal processing unit;

means for selecting a pertinent channel icon for the selected channel by comparing an icon corresponding with the channel with an icon of the channel stored in the main memory unit;

means for displaying the pertinent channel icon;

means for determining whether another channel is selected;

means for determining whether processing of a video signal corresponding to a signal outputted from the video signal processor is finished, if another channel is not selected;

means for displaying the broadcast signal of the selected channel, if the video signal processing is finished;

means for displaying the pertinent channel icon of the searched channel, if the video signal processing is not finished;

means for repeatedly performing the previous steps, if another channel selection is not made;

means for searching a newly selected channel if a new channel selection is made before the video signal processing is finished; and

means for repeating the first four of the last five recited steps with respect to the newly selected channel to facilitate identification of a selected channel.